THE COLUMBIAN MIRROR
AND
ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE.

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The Columbian Mirror
AND
ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE.

FEDERAL LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30.

Mr. W. Smith called the order of the day on the report of the committee of ways and means on the unfettled balances due from certain individual states to the United States, which was accordingly entered upon.

Mr. Williams rose and observed that he did not imagine the resolution would have been called up so soon. It had been put on their desks but a few days, and he had been employed on committees every evening and morning since—however he would make a few observations on the subject.

The resolution under consideration, said Mr. Williams, was a call on the debtor states for the payment of certain sums of money said to be due to the United States. The state which he had the honor to represent was one of this class. Did he believe it to be a debtor state, the last thing he would ask for would be a relinquishment of that debt; but being fully perfuaded, that had a just and equitable settlement been made, or that the nature of the case would have admitted of it, at the time it was made, the state of New-York would have been a creditor state; and he trusted that he could clearly demonstrate, from arguments drawn from facts, that neither the mode adopted by which the commissioners were to determine on the claims produced by the respective states, or the rule of appointment, which they were directed to pursue, could in any manner operate to do that justice which the nature of the case required.

With respect to the mode adopted, it is enacted in the third section of the act, entitled, "An act to provide more effectually for the settlement of all accounts between the United States and the individual states," "That the commissioners are to determine on all such claims as shall have accrued for the general or particular defence during the war, and on the evidence thereof, according to the principles of general equity (although such claims may not be sanctioned by the resolves of Congress or supported by regular vouchers) shall determine thereon." Had the words within the parenthesis been omitted, he asked would the Penobscot expedition, or the frigate built in South-Carolina, or a number of such like charges unauthorized by Congress been admitted in the settlement? But, by its being allowed, the states of Massachusetts and South-Carolina were made creditor states. The creditor states have had their credits funded according to the act, but not satisfied, they are now calling upon the debtor states to make payment—a payment which never could have been contemplated especially in the manner now called for.

In the seventh section of the before recited act, the creditor states should have their balances funded. This hath been done, but nothing is mentioned in that act, or any other, to authorize the call on the debtor states in the manner proposed. It is probable, said Mr. Williams, if it had been contemplated or that time the act would not have passed.

With respect to the rule of apportionment which the commissioners were directed by the law to pursue, Mr. Williams contended that it was impossible, that any thing like public justice could be done, particularly in the state of New-York, besides, said he, it was a departure from the rule laid down and established when the articles of confederation were agreed to, the eighth article of which is, "That all charges of war, and all other expences that shall be incurred for the common defence and general welfare, and allowed by the United States in Congress assembled, should be defrayed out of the common treasury, which should be supported by the several states, in proportion to the value of lands within each state, granted to or surveyed for any person, as such land and the buildings and improvements thereon should be estimated, according to such mode as the United States in Congress assembled shall from time to time direct and appoint. The taxes for paying that proportion should be laid and levied by the authority and directions of the legislature of the several states, within the time agreed upon by the United States in Congress assembled." And, therefore, said Mr. W. the act pointing out a different mode was a retrospective act operating to the disadvantage of some of the states to the advantage of others; had this act been passed immediately at the close of the war, instead of being omitted until six years after the war, it would have operated equally; but no rule of apportionment could then be adopted, without a manifest injury to some states, to whom thousands had emigrated from others. This was the case in the state of New-York. One third of the number of inhabitants in that state when the enumeration was made, had moved into it after the close of the war, from the New-England states and the state of New-Jersey; so that the numbers in those states were diminished, while that of New-York was augmented. The mode of apportionment must, in consequence, operate unequally. Even since the settlement had taken place, some thousands of families had come into the state of New-York, from creditor states: and how could a discrimination be made? Or would it be just to compel those who had emigrated from creditor states into debtor states, to pay the proportion of the money said to be due from debtor states, whereas, by the settlement, had they remained in the creditor states, they would have been entitled to a proportion of the money due to them. Or, said he, is this resolution calculated to prevent emigration from one state to another.

Mr. Williams observed that attempts had been made to have the privilege of examining the principles of the settlement by the commissioners, and the charges exhibited and allowed from the respective states, but it had been refused. If, said he, the creditor states were conscious of the settlement being proper, why this refusal? But, until this was done, could it be expected that the debtor states would submit to a settlement which they had every reason to believe was founded on erroneous charges exhibited to the commissioners?

With respect to New-York, their advances had been such that the first calculators in the Union, who had been engaged in public business during the war, said that the state of New-York must, on an equitable settlement, be a creditor state to the amount of two millions of dollars. Mr. W. said it had been given the commencement of the revolution to the close of the war, either in the legislative or military capacity, excepting about one year, and he was confident that no more could be done than was done by the state of New-York, and a state having done all they could do, it was not possible it could be a debtor state. And, said he, shall that state now suffer, because it had exhausted fair and honorable accounts, such as the commissioners disallowed, were not merchants' accounts, and would stand the scruples of law, omitting any accounts which could not be exhibited in proper form, as the nature of the case would not admit of it, unless by mere calculation? Adding to this, the difficulties that state had to encounter, which ought also to be taken in view on a final settlement.

At the commencement of the war, said Mr. W. unfortunately for the state of New-York, the one half of its inhabitants were disaffected to the then measures, and a number actually took arms against those who were friendly to the revolution, the suppression of whom, with a constant watch over them were never brought into the general account. In the beginning of the year 1776, the enemy took New-York, and with it nearly one half of the valuable part of that state. In the year following, Burgoyne's army penetrated its frontiers, and laid waste the greater part of the country north and west of Albany. By the memorable battle of Oriskko, upwards of three hundred widows and children were left to be supported by that state, as well as some hundreds at the north part of the state. These, together with the poor from the city of New-York, were supported during the war and no charge made thereof. The endeavors of the enemy to form a conjunction of their armies near the Hudson river, was the cause of that state being so overrun that not one county escaped their ravages. Add to this one third of New-York, the fine town of Esopus, and several hundred houses in the frontiers were burnt and immense property destroyed. For calamities so great very few thought of obtaining vouchers, and for the destruction of armies no allowance would be made, which occasioned numbers to be reduced from affluence to want.

Large sums of money, said Mr. W. had been paid by the state of New-York since the time limited to be exhibited for a settlement with the United States. The just debts exhibited by the claimants and the reasonableness of the excuse for their not having presented them sooner, operated with them so forcibly that they could not be withstood. Many accounts exhibited and not paid will amount to upwards of one million of dollars, and probably as reasonable as some of those allowed to the other states by the commissioners.

But, it will be said, had not other states suffered? Mr. W. said he would ask, what state? Was it any of the New England states? Where, said he, had they their capitals kept from them during the war? Where had they their frontiers overrun and destroyed? Where had they their country laid waste and destroyed? Was it not a fact, said he, that during the war the inhabitants of New-York had to procure their salt from the New-England states, New-Jersey, and Pennsylvania, which cost them on an average, two bushels of wheat for one of salt, and every other article in proportion. Add to this, they had from time to time taken from them all their grain, excepting what was scarcely sufficient to support their families by [illegible] of impress, and at a certain limited price, which was delivered for the use of the army, and at a time when other states furnished supplies of the like kind and were allowed more than double the price. I have known, said he, working oxen taken by the point of the bayonet from the farmer, and so this day not paid for;—and will gentlemen say, New-York is a debtor state? He hoped not.

Mr. Williams stated, when the sufferings of the citizens of the state of New-York were only considered; when the vast delineation of their capital, and of their frontiers was taken into consideration, together with their situation during the war, he was persuaded that no more would be said respecting that state being a debtor state, and that such an odious stigma would be done away.

Did not, said he, the commander in chief observe in the most trying times, viz. in the year 1781, that if it were not for the exertions of the state of New-York, and the supplies by them at that time furnished, he must disband the army.

Did not one of the commissioners who settled the accounts declare in this house (being a member at that time) that the debts of the debtor states ought to be done away? Was this not tacitly acknowledging that the accounts exhibited to them varied so much, that it was impossible for them agreeably to the mode prescribed, to do equal justice? Add to this, the charge made, by some states for bounties, when that of New-York could not exhibit the relative amount of a part of theirs, and others no bounty, when, at the same time the classes, as directed by law, raised the men by paying large sums for each unknown to the state.

Mr. Williams concluded by saying, that since the war the state of New-York had always paid their specie requisitions, which, together with the like paid by Pennsylvania, was the chief support of congress, until the constitution or present system of government took place, while some of the creditor states paid nothing; that as the state of New-York had done as much as their situation would permit them, had paid large sums of money since the war, which was borrowed to support, pay, and cloathe their quota of troops, and many other matters of the kind, he hoped that the resolution would be negatived, and no more be said on the subject.

Mr. Nicholas thought there was an enquiry which was necessary to precede the present question. Some of the states which were brought in debtors by the commissioners, might hold debts of the United States, and it would appear somewhat odd that they should be called upon for money when they were really creditors. In such cases, all that could be expected would be that a balance should be struck. He therefore proposed a resolution, directing the committee of commerce and manufactures to enquire whether any of the states brought in debtor states by the commissioners, were holders of debts of the United States. If they were, he said, the United States had the means of payment in their own hands. He should move that the committee might rise, in order to bring forward this proposition.

Mr. W. Smith said he could not agree to the proposition of the gentleman from Virginia, though eventually the means recommended might be proper. The subject before them, he said, was a very delicate subject, and ought to be treated with every degree of candor. He was glad that the gentleman from New-York had spoken

upon the subject with a degree of moderation which did him credit. The discussion was an unpleasant one, and could scarcely fail to excite a degree of irritation in the house, which, however, it would be desirable to avoid as much as possible. For many years, Mr. S. said, this subject had been under consideration, and it was much to be desired, that it could now be brought to a close. He knew no better mode of doing this than the one proposed, viz. that the debtor states should be informed of the sums with which they stood charged, and that payment should be requested in such a way as should prove most agreeable to them.

Mr. S. said he should not follow the gentleman from New-York (Mr. Williams) through the whole of his observations, because he did not think them relative to the subject before them. Some of them might have been properly enough suggested when the subject of balancing the accounts was before the house; he believed, indeed, they were brought forward at that time. He would mention some facts relative to the business, with which perhaps some gentlemen might not be acquainted. In the year 1790, it seemed to be the general wish that an adjustment of debts and credits betwixt the general government and individual states with respect to the late war, should take place; that balance should be struck, and those states which were brought in debtors should pay, and those who were found to be creditors should receive what was reported to be just: and, in order to facilitate the business, a great deal of compromise took place, so that it was at length agreed upon with a good deal of unanimity. In order to give the states an opportunity of bringing forward all their claims, the commissioners were invested with chancery powers. After the business had gone through the committee of the whole, there was only one question which occasioned any discussion; and upon this the yeas and nays were taken, this was the ratio by which the states should be charged. On a motion to strike out this ratio, it was lost, 45 to 10; and what was remarkable, one half of the representatives from the state of New-York voted for the existing mode, and the other half for striking it out. [Mr. S. here read an extract from the journals.] It did not at that time strike the members from that state, that the ratio adopted would injure them. Whether subsequent events had made it unfavorable to them or not, was not now the question, but whether those states which had been reported debtors should be called upon to pay what was due from them.

Mr. S. said this business might be compared to an arbitration between individuals, where full powers were given to the arbitrators; for all that could be said about the exertions of individual states, was brought forward, it was agreed to put the business into the hands of three commissioners to make an award. The award was made and accepted by Congress. Whatever objections were held against it, should have been made at that time before the award had been carried into effect. Any complaints now brought forward against the principles and mode of settlement, were certainly ill timed. The only question now was, which is the best way of completing the business? He thought the mode proposed was the best. It appeared, by the report of the committee, that the following were the debtor states, viz. New-York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and North-Carolina. The whole debt was 3,517,718 dollars, of which 2,749,000 was owing by New-York. The interest of the debt, viz. 844,218 dollars being added, made the whole 4,361,802 dollars.

In our present embarrassed situation, said Mr. Smith, this money would be very acceptable. In order to meet the demands of the public creditors, it was well known that recourse must be had to additional revenue. It would therefore be very desirable if the debt could be collected, as it would serve to lessen that sum which must otherwise be collected from the people. Or this money he said, might be usefully employed in providing for the defence of the country, either by means of a navy, increase of arsenals, or otherwise. Indeed, there were many beneficial objects to which the money might be applied; and he doubted not, when the debtor states knew the formation of the United States, those who were able to pay, at least, would come forward cheerfully, and pay the sums due from them, in such a way as should be most agreeable to themselves.

Mr. Smith said, he should suppose, that even the debtor states themselves would wish to have these accounts settled, as it must be unpleasant to them when claims were made from them upon the United States, to be told they were in debt to the Union. He remembered an instance in the last session where this was the case with respect to New-York. The settlement now desired, would do away such disagreeable insinuations in future. As to the state of New York, he should be the last person who would say any thing disagreeable to that state, as it was a state of consequence in the Union, and entitled to every degree of respect; but gentlemen must know that the finances of that state were in a most flourishing condition; that they had abundance of wealth. [Mr. S. here enumerated an account of their riches.] When, he said, they contemplated the situation of other states, with debts upon their shoulders, to pay the interest of which, and for the support of their civil establishment, they were obliged to tax their citizens, he did not think New-York would suffer much by paying the debt in question. The state of South Carolina, he said, was at present considerably in debt, for the payment of the interest of which, and their civil list, they were obliged to have recourse to direct taxation on their land, while the state of New-York had no taxes at all, though he understood the legislature had recommended a tax to be laid, in order to accustom the people to the payment of a tax.

The only question, Mr. Smith said, was whether any material injury could arise from the application proposed to be made to the debtor states for payment. If they had any well founded objections to the payment of the respective balances, they would of course make them; if not, they would doubtless propose some mode of payment. But, Mr. Smith said, if it was the opinion of the house, that these debts ought at once to be cancelled, let it be done. Something ought to be concluded on, in order to put an end to so disagreeable a business.

(To be continued.)

☞ Any person who has got the first volume of DON QUIXOTE, which does not belong to them, and which it is supposed has been taken from a store in town thro' mistake, will confer a particular obligation by leaving it at the Printing Office. It was elegantly bound, with the back beautifully gilt.

Great Falls of Potomac.

THE President and Board of Directors having ordered me to considerably encrease the number of their hands, I am ready to engage from 50 to 100 servants on liberal terms for one year.

Any person disposed to lend us hands, may send with their people an overseer, who will have from 18 to 30 dollars per month, and have the sole direction and charge of the people he brings.

The people will be allowed good rations, a blanket, and medical assistance, should any ailment take place, a doctor being engaged for the use of the workers. It will also give good allowance to a woman, who will cook for each squad. Application to be made to me personally or by letter directed thus,

CHRISTOPHER MYERS.
Engineer to the Potomac Comp.
MATTILDA,
Via Alexandria.
December 22.

The Columbian Mirror
AND
ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE.

AN ACT

TO

ESTABLISH AND REGULATE A MARKET IN THE TOWN OF ALEXANDRIA.

BE it Enacted, by the Mayor and Commonalty of the Town of Alexandria, *That there shall be a market held at the market-house of the said Town, every day of the week throughout the year, Sundays excepted; and that no person shall, before the hour of nine o'clock in the forenoon, from the first day of April to the first day of October, and before the hour of ten o'clock in the forenoon, from the first day of October to the first day of April, make sale of any kind of meats, fowls, butter, cheese, eggs, vegetables, roots, or expose or offer the same to sale at any place within the jurisdiction of the Corporation, except at the market-house; and any person making sale of, or offering for sale, any of the articles above mentioned, before the above hours, at any place within the jurisdiction of the Corporation, except at the market-house, shall forfeit for each offence two dollars; and any person purchasing any of the articles above mentioned, before the aforesaid hours, at any place within the jurisdiction of the Corporation, except at the market-house, shall forfeit for each offence, two dollars—Provided, that nothing herein contained, shall extend to the sale and purchase of butter in firkins, beef and pork for salting, or in casks already salted, and of fish, at other places than the market-house.*

Be it further enacted, *That no person shall bring to the market-house, and offer for sale, any kind of meats, fowls, butter, cheese, eggs, vegetables, roots, or any other kind of provisions (except pork and beef after having been salted and dried) which had before been purchased at the market-house, or at any other place within the jurisdiction of the Corporation; and if any such so purchased shall be offered for sale, the same shall be forfeited and seized by the clerk of the market; and the person offering the same for sale, shall moreover forfeit and pay, for every such offence, the sum of four dollars.*

Be it further enacted, *That no person who purchases articles of provisions to sell again, shall, on any day before the hours herein mentioned, purchase at the market-house, any greater quantity of any article, whether of meat, fowls, eggs, butter, vegetables, roots, or any other kind of provision there offered for sale, (except butchers' meat) than what may be sufficient to serve his, her, or their family during the day; and if any person or persons shall, on any day before the aforesaid hours, purchase a greater quantity of any of the aforesaid articles, except as aforesaid, than what may be sufficient for his, her, or their family for that day, such surplus shall be forfeited and seized by the clerk of the market, and the persons so offending shall moreover forfeit, for every such offence, the sum of two dollars.*

Be it further enacted, *That if any person shall offer for sale any butter made up into lumps or cakes, for a certain weight, which it shall be found not to hold out when tried, all and every such lump or cake so offered, shall be forfeited and seized by the clerk of the market.*

Be it further enacted, *That if any person shall offer for sale at the market-house or elsewhere, within the jurisdiction of the corporation, any meat, fish, or other provisions, which are not sound and wholesome, the same shall be forfeited and seized by the clerk of the market, who shall bury or destroy the same; and if any meats shall be offered for sale, in manner aforesaid, which are so poor as not to be merchantable, or which have been blown, winded, or otherwise prac-*

tised upon for deception, the flesh of such meats shall be forfeited and seized by the clerk of the market.

Be it further enacted, *That all provisions which shall be forfeited and seized by virtue of this act, shall be for the use of the poor, except such as are unwholesome, which are directed to be destroyed.*

Be it further enacted, *That in all cases of seizure made in pursuance of this act, the party affected may appeal from the seizure made by the clerk of the market, to one of the magistrates of the said Town, before whom the clerk shall, immediately upon the close of the market, take the articles so seized, who shall examine into the allegations of the parties, and examine such witnesses as may be produced, and determine thereupon according to the intent and meaning of this act.*

Be it further enacted, *That all fines imposed by this act, shall be recovered by a warrant before a magistrate, or by petition in the Court of Hustings, as the case may be; and in all cases where the information is made by the clerk of the market, the fine thereupon recovered shall be altogether for the use of the Corporation; and in those cases where information is made by any other person, the fines recovered shall be one half for the use of the informer, the other half for the use of the Corporation.*

Be it further enacted, *That no butcher, or any other person, shall offer for sale at the market-house, any meat upon a Sunday, between the first day of November and the first day of May in any year; and that if any person shall offer any meat for sale at the market-house upon a Sunday, between the first day of November and the first day of May in any year, the person or persons so offending, shall pay five dollars for every such offence, to be recovered and applied as herein before directed.*

Be it further enacted, *That all and every act, or clause of an act, which comes within the purview of this act, shall be, and the same is hereby repealed.*

FROM THE MINERVA.

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

SIR,

In the present state of our political affairs, when France is laying in her claims to the gratitude of the United States, and menacing us with hostile attacks, and has even given orders to seize our vessels, it is very important that the *grounds* of her claims should be fairly exhibited to all the citizens of America. We have a party in this country, who really believe France has been *friendly* and *generous* to our nation. If this is true, it is proper that the account of her claims upon our gratitude should be known, that we may strike the balance. We beg to be able to discharge the debt of gratitude, and not for ever have our *ingratitude* cast in our teeth, by her agents and her votaries.

But, Sir, it is often asserted in the public papers, that France, though she assisted us in the war, proved afterwards treacherous to our interest, leagued with Spain to limit our western boundaries to the Ohio, to deprive us of our share in the fisheries, and to shore, labored to prevent our independence. Indeed ideas of this kind are suggested by the French Council, which gave Mr. Genet his instructions.

If these are fact, they must be capable of proof, by *authentic documents* in the office of the department of state. Would it not be proper, sir, and even highly useful to have those papers published, at least so many of them as to give the people of the United States a just and complete view of the policy of France towards this country?

It is presumed that moderation, wisdom, and forbearance on the part of America, will prevent an appeal to arms to vindicate our rights. But in case of a rupture, it is necessary the people should know precisely the merits of the controversy; and nothing would lead them to this knowledge

so effectually as a fair and full exposition of the conduct of France from the year 1778 to this time. If we are ungrateful, let us know it, if the French have been hypocritical, let us know it. We want the *truth*—the *whole truth*, and with the truth before our eyes, there is no doubt but our *opinions* will be *unanimous* and our *actions firm*.

MILLIONS.

Partnership Dissolved.

THE partnership of HENRY GIRD and CO. is this day dissolved by mutual consent.—All persons indebted to the Firm are hereby requested to come forward and discharge their respective accounts, as the intended removal of one of the partners renders it indispensibly necessary. If any person has claims against the Firm, they are desired to produce them for settlement.

HENRY GIRD, Sen.
THOS. FRANKLAND.

THE BUSINESS IN FUTURE WILL BE CARRIED ON BY

THOMAS FRANKLAND,

Who takes this opportunity of informing his FRIENDS and the PUBLIC, that he will be constantly supplied with the best WHITE and BROWN SOAP—MOULD and DIPT CANDLES—and an agreeable variety of SHAVING SOAP and WASH BALLS.——Having conducted Business for several years in Europe, and also since the commencement of the Partnership in this Town, he hopes to receive a share of Public patronage, which it shall be his study to merit. ——To the Merchants of Alexandria he begs leave to remark, that the quality of his Soap is evidently superior to that imported from the Northward; and, of course, could not fail of bringing a proportionate advance in the West Indies, &c.—Those who purchase quantities for Exportation, or other purposes, will find him inclined to accept of moderate prices.

N. B. He will give the highest price for TALLOW, ASHES, &c.

January 14.

Lands for Sale.

ON the the 23d day of February next will be sold on the premises, a valuable tract of land, containing about 736 acres, lying on the branches of Broad Run, in the county of Loudoun, and near the Gumspring. The land is well watered with good springs, and one of the main branches of Broad Run goes through the same, on which may be erected either saw or grist mills, for which the stream may answer. A sufficient proportion of the land is well timbered; the cleared land is all under good fencing. There are several hundred choice fruit trees in a thriving condition. The soil is adapted for farming, or the culture of tobacco and Indian corn, for which purposes few tracts can be found more valuable. At the same time and place will be sold, one other tract of land adjoining the above, containing 280 acres, mostly uncleared and well timbered, and on the next day will be sold at Broad Run Old Church, a valuable tract of land lying there, containing 300 acres, well watered and timbered, and about 145 acres cleared, and divided into six or seven fields. There is on this land about 11 or 1200 bearing fruit trees, the greater part apple trees, and of choice kinds. This land lies within 6 miles of the mouth of Goose creek, from whence there is navigation down the Potomac. At the same time and place will be offered for sale, about 60,000 acres of land in Monongalia and Harrison counties, which will be sold off in 2000 acre lots, or upwards. This land is rich and heavily timbered, and the state road from the Potomac to Morgantown runs through part of it. One fourth part of the purchase money for the Loudoun lands will be expected in hand, and a liberal credit given for the balance—and for the Western lands (which are remarkably good for settling) one third of the purchase money will be expected in hand, and the balance in easy payments. The subscriber will sell by private sale to any person who will apply before the day of public sale.——Good titles will be made to all the above mentioned tracts of land, by

JOHN SPENCER.
living on Broad Run, Loudoun county.

N. B. The lands will be taken as security for the payment of the credits.

JOHN SPENCER.

January 21, 1797.

Alexandria, January 14.

We have received this morning a NEW-LONDON paper, which contains a continuation of Foreign Intelligence. —The most important of which is the correspondence between the Executive Directory and Lord Malmesbury. The Directory demanded of Malmesbury, whether his powers extended to negotiating for the allies of England. He replied that they did not; but stated that his court would no doubt use all its influence to accomplish a general pacification. The directory appeared dissatisfied with this answer, and suspended the negotiation till Malmesbury shall have written home, and shall have received more specific instructions.

An account from Trieste, October 7, mentions a naval engagement near the Hiers Isles, between the Toulon fleet, of 12 ships of the line and Jervis's fleet of 20 ships of the line, in which two of the French were dismasted, two sunk, and a great part of the rest taken.——The Hamburgh Editor thinks the account suspicious.

A Paris Journal of the 10th Nov. has the following article:

"We are assured that Lord Malmesbury has made the Directory the proposal for an armistice between England and France."

On the Lower Rhine the Austrians made, on the 22d ult. a bold, but unsuccessful attempt to render themselves master of the bridge-head near Neuwied, and to cut off the communication between the right and left wings of the French army—Their loss appears to have been very considerable on this occasion: and the French, under Bournonville, maintained their position. If we are to admit the French account, they made 1000 prisoners, 400 of whom were wounded; and the affair, on the whole, cost the Austrians 400 men.

"It is reported that there has been concluded between Spain and Portugal, a convention, stating that all the ports of the latter are to be shut against the English during the war."

From Italy it appears that Mantua still holds out. General Wurmser has lately made several ineffectual sorties, and the surrender of the garrison is very shortly expected to take place.

Moreau has requested of the Directory, that Pichegru may be appointed to command the army of the Rhine and Moselle.

Hamburg papers have been received at Philadelphia, to the 5th of November:—In a letter from Buonaparte to the Executive Directory, dated Oct. 17,—he informs that he had sent Gen. Gentilli to take possession of Corfica, which appears to have been evacuated by the English.

Extract of a letter from Philadelphia.

"I understand that the Secretary of State is preparing a statement of the conduct of our government, relative to France, to be laid before congress for their information, by way of answer to the charges of Adet.

MARRIED.—On Thursday the 5th instant, at Philadelphia, by Hilary Baker, Esq. SICK QUO IN RE YOUBEE, *alias*, John Walker, one of the chiefs of the Cherokee nation of Indians, to Miss ANN JANE DURANT, of that city.

FROM A FRENCH PAPER.

BUONAPARTE'S GENEROSITY.

From Milan, we learn, that on the 5th September, General Buonaparte granted a general amnesty to all who had taken part in the rebellion of the 21st, 2d, and 3d of August. He has besides given back to the poor the effects of which they had been deprived, in order to pay their part of a contribution of one million, to which the inhabitants were subjected. Those only who were condemned for emmitracy are to have their effects sequestered and confiscated to the republic.

A LITTLE FRENCH VICIOUSNESS.

A letter from Toulon represents the arsenal of that port as exhibiting a scene of the most dreadful plunder. The ship on which the J. J. Rousseau was built, as well as those on which the Diane was constructed, have been carried off by the workmen, and the rope-makers and spinners pilfer the hemp and rope yarn. There are two parties in that port, one of which is for Grognard, and the other for Najeac; although they are constantly quarrelling, yet they agree in the point of plunder. The toilet for the queen of Naples, which was taken on board the English ship Minerva, has become a prey to the plunderers.

By Post.

NEW-YORK, JANUARY 9.

The following facts are from a mercantile correspondent.

Every American vessel that arrives at Cape Francois, her cargo is forcibly taken by the administration, who promise payment, apparently without any intention of performing, as cargoes thus forcibly taken, remain yet unpaid, though many months have elapsed. When remonstrance is made, nothing but persecution results from it. From captain Barney's (of the Medusa frigate) being a native American, the captains of American vessels had reason to suppose he would rather have wished to alleviate their sufferings; but to persecution he added insult, not only to the American captains there, but to this country, by ignominiously hoisting its flag REVERSED on board his frigate.

JAMES M'CALL, Mate of the brig Baron de Coronbelet.
THOMAS ATWOOD, late Master of the schooner Jane, abandoned at the Cape.

A letter from Cape Francois, dated the 29th Nov. mentions, that 48 sail of American vessels have been captured within these four months—the vessels and cargoes amounting to 1,250,000 dollars; and that they still continue capturing American vessels—if they are not condemned, they take the cargoes by force. The letter concludes thus: "For Gods sake don't adventure any more this way."

EARTHQUAKE.

NEW-LONDON, DECEMBER 30.

On Saturday last at 1 o'clock P. M. a smart shock of an earthquake was felt in this city, accompanied with a report that broke upon the ear like the explosion of a heavy cannon at a short distance: The sound and motion continued but a few moments. In the street, near the meeting house in Norwich, two fissures, one of two inches wide, and several rods long were made in the earth, within 20 rods of each other.

SALEM, DECEMBER 30.

Tuesday morning arrived here the brigantine Speedwell, captain John Fillebrown, from Guadaloupe.—November 27, captain F. fell in with and picked up two boats, formerly belonging to the schooner George and Henry, of Baltimore, David Porter, master, which sailed from Baltimore November 16, laden with flour, bound to St. Domingo, and on the 25th, in lat. 26, and long. 69, 30, was upset. The crew of the schooner consisted of 7 men and 7 passengers—among whom were a French lady and her niece, both of whom were in bed when the vessel began to go over, and were with much difficulty saved; two of the crew were asleep in the fore peak at the same time, and could not be got out until the vessel was entirely under water; when they were forced to cut a hole, and were both saved. Judging themselves then 300 miles from any land, they all took to the boats, and laid near the wreck till the next morning at sunrise, when they left her. The following night was very dark and squally, and the boats came very near sinking. The next day they saw a vessel, which proved to be the Speedwell, and were taken up by Captain F. and brought into this port destitute of every thing. The reason of the vessel's upsetting was the want of ballast, having on board nothing but flour. She was owned by Messrs. White and Taylor, of Baltimore.

CHARLES-TOWN, JAN. 13.

A few weeks ago, the two tobacco warehouses in this town were broke open, and most of the books taken from thence and destroyed. Two persons, Matthew and Michael Dulany, were apprehended the day after the perpetration of the act. As very strong circumstantial proof appeared against them, they were kept in custody. The court is now sitting at Montgomery Court-House, and on Wednesday the grand jury of this county found two bills against one of them, and one against the other.

[illegible] of Vienna to the army, is inconceivably great.

A solemn procession has been held at Prague as a thanksgiving for the delivery of Bohemia from the danger with which it was threatened by the republicans.

Forty thousand recruits, it is said, will be raised in that part of Poland which is the new acquisition of Russia.

HAGUE, OCTOBER 11

[illegible]

PUBLIC SALES.

On Monday next, the 16th inst. at 12 o'clock, will be sold at the Court-house in Alexandria, for the term of nine years,

A likely Negro Woman,

aged about 25 years, on a credit of 6 months. A negotiable note, with an approved endorser will be demanded.

MARSTELLER & SONS.

AN excellent situation for business, and accommodation of a family, will be sold on the premises, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, on Wednesday the 18th inst. if not privately disposed of prior to the above date, the House and Lot, the property of W. Hoye, on Prince Street, and now rented to Mrs. John Gould, of this town for one year from the 1st day of February next, at £100. Terms will be made easy, and known at the time of sale.

MARSTELLER & SONS.

On Friday the 20th inst. at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, will be sold by Public Vendue on the premises, (if not sold by private sale before that day,) a commodious and well finished

Two Story Frame House,

situate on Water Street, adjoining the house of Mr. Ablalom Roe. The lot is 25½ feet front, and 63 feet 4 inches in depth, with the use of a 3 feet alley, in common with the possessor of the corner lot. The house is 36 feet square, built for the accommodation of two families, with separate kitchens and offices—with two rooms and fire places on each floor for the different apartments. The whole is now under repair at the rate of 100l. per ann. further particulars will be made known previous to the sale.

MARSTELLER & SONS.

January 12.

City of Washington,

January 12, 1797.

WANTED for the present year at the public works, in the city of Washington, a number of Labourers, for whom 72 dollars per ann. will be given, or 60 dollars from the 1st of March, to the 20th of December next. They will be found in every thing but cloathing and attended by a physician at public expence when necessary.

ELISHA O. WILLIAMS,

LIST OF LETTERS

Remaining in the Post Office, Alexandria, January 1st, 1797.

A.—JEMIMA ARUNDELL, Wm. Armstrong, John Allen, James Arwin, care of Mr. Forney.

B.—Thos. Bourbier, Edward P. Bell, Elias Brunt, Francis Boyle, Robert Bath, George Beyer, on board the Polly and Nancy, Jos. Bennet, John Bacon, Wm. Buslen, Col. Robert Borton, Nancy Barden, Lucy Brown, care of George Brown, Hatter, Hugh Barr, care of Mr. Brockett, Wm Bonton, John Bellers, (Frenchman) John Brant Solomon Benton, care of Jesse Wherry, Hugh Barr, coppersmith, Wm. Bowell, Thomas Butler, carpenter, of the Shedberdess, Mary Burket, Henry Barr, Samuel Brown.

C.—Eliza Custer, Wm. Chapman, John Carr, Alex. Carpenter, John Campbell, John Crawley, George Collard, carpenter, Mrs. Cook, Thomas Colling, Capt. Samuel Carr, Wm. Creek, John Caldwell.

D.—John Dupmaid, cabinet maker, John Dorsett, Michael Darley, John Duff, Jesse Dunbar, Capt. James Davidson, Wm. Davis, Benjamin Dulaney, Jun. Amos Derrough, Daniel Douglass, John Dougle, Peter Demuth, Monf. Dubux, John Davis, James Douglass, mouth of Difficult, Mr. Douglass, flour inspector, Nancy Donaldson, care of Bryan Fairfax, Mr. Deale.

F.—Wm. Ervin, cabinet maker, William Emack, Jos. English, Andrew Ellave.

G.—Thomas Gardner, Benj. Harrison, Thomas Harrison, Wm. Hickman, John Horseburg, John Harper, merchant taylor, James Harper, Wm. Hackney, Asa Hill, John Hickman, & Co. Thomas Hall, care of Thomas White, blacksmith, Margaret Hagerty, John Henry, Matilda, Anthony Harris, care of George Ruffel, Mary Hawke, Sarah Hill, John Hughes, care of Thomas Redmond, Theo. Harris, Capt. Robert Herrison, Richard Harwood, Thomas Holmes, James Holley, Theo. James Hamilton, Mr. Hammersley, coppersmith.

J.—Crowley Jordan, Benj. Jacis, Benj. James, Colleo Jackson, David Jones, Thomas Irwin, Capt. John Johnson on board the brig George.

K.—John Kent, Smith Keith.

L.—Jesse V. Lewis, printer, Monf. Latour, Ann Lake, Henry Lowe, Elias Lobydon, Wm. Lightfoot, Opie Lindsay, Alex. Latimer, care of James M'Henry, Edward Lapthorn.

M.—Henry M'Cue, Citoyen Mounett George M'Doell, George Minor, sen. Wm. M'Cullock, at J. Beale's, John Mooney, painter, John Marnex, John Mason, Capt. C. Myers, Matilda, Alexander M'Kenzie, Neil Mooney, bricklayer, Benj. Mitchell, watch-maker, Daniel M'Lean, baker, James Morrison, Mr. Mace, Edward M'Mahon, Vivion Madison, Enock Morris, John M'Connell, Andrew M'Gee, near the Market house.

N.—Abel Newhall, Prichard Newby at Mr. James Douglass', Difficult.

O.—Mr. Odds, ship carpenter, John O'Neal, John Olbury, Dudley Odlin Thomas Ogden.

P.—Walter Pomery, Henry Piercy, Thomas Parker, Thomas Peterkin, Thomas Patterson, Joseph Peck, Piercy & Graham, Mary Potts, Pomery & Hibbel, George Patterson, at James Kelly's.

Q.—Captain James Quirk.

R.—George Rutter, John Ross, Philip Russell, Elisha Redwick, care of Mr. Fulmer, John Radford, Col. Ramsay.

S.—Captain Nath. Spooner, John Smith, Captain Abraham Stone, on board the Fish, Nancy, Matthew Smoot, Josh Smith, care of Palmer, blacksmith, Lewis Stradee, Mr. Smith, hatter, Adam M. Sawers, Captain Wm. Smith, Wm. Smith, John Stuart, George Stuart, Wm. Simpkins, Edward Stanford, care of Wm. Fitzhugh, Jesse Simpsons, at Buckland & Smith, Asa Stith, Charles Steadly, Lawrence Sweat, baker, Daniel Seane, Baltimore.

T.—Wm. Thompson, Capt. John Foulton, on board the Sea Dolly, Henry Taylor, Robert Troy, Salisbury, Adam Tetlapaugh, carpenter, Joseph Turner, carpenter, Andrew Taylor.

V.—Samuel Vail, Wm. Vanderburns.

W.—John Wells, Henry Webb, on board the Loup Delaware, Thomas Wall, John Wilson, near the old court house, Fairfax county, Nat. Winter, W. W. Williams, Matilda, James Wells care of Mr. Mason, Silver smith, Robert Wanker, Andrew Abner Williams, Seth Whitley, Wm. Washington, Isaac Wandell, John Woodley.

TO BE SOLD,

At Public Vendue, on Thursday the 6th of April next, at Dougherty's tavern, in the town of Winchester, in Virginia, the following Lands, situate in the said state, viz.

No. 1—430 Acres

Of excellent land, on the waters of Back-creek, in Frederick county, on the great road leading to the South Branch, about 10 miles from Winchester, 100 acres of which is rich bottom, a fine stream running through it, with several springs, the trees in the bottom are chiefly sugar maple, black walnut, hickory and locust. There are a log dwelling and out-houses, some meadow made, and about 40 acres of upland cleared. On this tract there is a good mill-seat, where an under-shot mill might be erected.

No. 2.—800 Acres,

Situate in Hampshire county, on the north branch of the Potomac, and on a branch called Cabbin Run, about 8 miles from Fort Cumberland. On this track is a large quantity of rich bottom, fit for meadow or the culture of hemp, the upland remarkable good, being chiefly timbered with walnut and hickory. The above tract is in two surveys of 400 each.

No. 3.—200 Acres,

Situate in Franklin county, about ten miles from Winchester. On this tract there is a dwelling house, and part of the land is cleared, the remainder is finely timbered.

No. 4.—A Lot of Ground,

In the town of Woodstock, Shanandoah county, whereon is erected a two story house, and other improvements, and a ten acre lot for the convenience of said town lot.

No. 5.—250 Acres,

Situate about two miles from Woodstock. Part of this tract is in cultivation, is finely timbered, and a good quantity of meadow may be made.

No 6.—400 Acres,

Situate in Hampshire county, on George Anders's mill run, on a branch of the Cacapehon. This tract is finely timbered, there is good bottom land, which might be easily converted into meadow.

No. 7—One Moiety of 5000 Acres,

Lying on the Waters of Hughes's river, in Harrison county. This was purchased at one quarter of a dollar per acre cash above 8 years ago.

No. 8.—41,900 Acres,

Lying in the counties of Wythe, Washington, and Grayson, (the greater part in Wythe,) on the waters of Cripple creek and Fox creek, branches of New river, and on the south side of Holston.

No. 9.—10,000 Acres,

Lying in the county of Hardy, on the waters of Great Cacapion and North River.

The terms of payment will be one third part of the purchase money to be paid in hand at the time of executing the deed or deeds of conveyance, the remaining two thirds to be paid in equal instalments, at 12, 18, and 24 months thereafter, securing those payments by mortgaging the premises.

Should any person wish to purchase at private sale, application may be made to John Holker, Esq. near Winchester; David Holmes, Esq. of Winchester; or by letters (post paid), to the subscriber in Philadelphia, being the owner of said lands, who will personally attend the sale on the day above mentioned.

GEORGE MEADE.

Philadelphia, 29th Oct. 1796.

FOR SALE AT THIS OFFICE,

A FEW OF

The President's Address.

At the Dry Good Store, in Fairfax-Street, opposite the store of Mr. Bryan Hampton, offers for sale, under the direction of Mr. William Swann, either for cash, flour, wheat, barley, rye, Indian corn, oats, buckwheat, &c. &c. at the highest market price will be given, the following Merchandize are offered highly advantageous to the purchaser, viz.

Superfine and second 7-4 broad cloth.
Common 5-4 to 6-4 do.
Elastic & forest do.
Double milled drabs,
Plain & printed cassimeres,
Printed and tambor'd cassimere vest shapes
Swansdown & printed velvet do.
Printed and tambor'd do.
Coverings & duffils,
Kerseys & plains,
Half shicks and kendall, or negro cottons,
Flannels & baizes,
Rose & Indian blankets,
Green, blue, & mottled rugs,
English and Scotch carpets,
Yard & ¾ yd. wide carpeting by the yard,
Ladies' scarlet cloaks assorted,
Fulled, yarn, and worsted caps,
Mens' & boy's worsted gloves & yarn mitts,
Mens' & boys' worsted, yarn, & plaid hosiery,
Women and childrens' colour'd do.
Camblet & camblettees,
Wildbore, durant, & Joan's spinning,
Morean, callimanco, & bombazett,
Crape & black satinett,
Velvet and velveteen,
Corduroy, thickset, and royal ribb,
Fancy cord, jeans & beaver fustians,
Marseilles quilting, dimities, and muslinetts,
Plain & sprigg'd Jackonett muslins,
Plain & sprigg'd book muslin,
Kenting and spotted lawn,
Book & jaconet muslin handkerchiefs,
Book & jaconet muslin apron patterns,
Mens' plain and tambour'd muslin handkerchiefs and neckcloths,
Long lawn & cambricks,
Chintzes, callicoes, & Ginghams,
Cotton and muslin shawls,
Cotton and linen pocket handkerchiefs,
Irish linens,
Russia sheeting and Russia duck,
Brown holland, dowlas, and tickenburgs,
German osnaburgs, and hempen rolls,
Plain & striped ticking,
Bed bunts & ticken,
Shirting & apron check,
Silk, cotton, and thread hosiery,
Coloured silks and modes,
Persians & farsinet,
Flag & spotted Bandanno silk handkerchiefs,
Ribbons assorted,
Silk, galloon, and worsted bindings,
Fringe, lace, & edging,
Coloured and cambric thread,
Nuns' thread, sewing silk, and twist, assorted,
Tapes, bobbin, &c.
Ladies' silk mitts & kid gloves,
Mens' buckskin and beaver do.
Ladies' coloured furr hats,
Mens' and boy's furr and wool do.
Buttons assorted,
Pearce & razor cases, with implements,
Pocket & penknives,
Knives & forks,
Pruning knives and scissars,
Shoe buckles & knee buckles,
Snuff boxes,
Brass & other candle sticks,
Glass & queen's ware assorted,
5-4 white & printed cottons at 18d. per yard,
Souchong, hyson skin, young hyson, and imperial teas.

He flatters himself from the care he will take in procuring the best and cheapest goods, and of those peculiarly adapted to the use of this country, as he will only dispose of them for cash or produce—thereby being enabled to sell on the very lowest terms,—that it will be the interest of those keepers in the country, as well farmers as others to make trial of his store.

ROBERT SMOCK.

January 12.

HARDWARE.

JOSEPH SAUL, at his Store on the south side of King-Street, five doors above Fairfax-Street, has opened, (which he will sell wholesale and retail) a complete assortment of all kinds of Hardware, particularly a general assortment of all kinds of House and Ship Carpenters', Joiners', Cabinet-makers', Coopers', Turners', Silversmiths', Tinners', Blacksmiths', Steelmakers', and other tools. Also, Locks, Hinges, Bolts, and other materials for building, with a variety of articles suitable for country and retail stores.

He has also on hand,

Old Sherry Wine of a very superior quality, which he will dispose of by the quantity or quarter cask.

VENDUE.

On TUESDAY and FRIDAY, in every week, at 10 o'clock in the morning, will be exposed for sale at the Vendue Store (corner of Prince and Water streets)

A VARIETY OF

WET & DRY GOODS.

Of which the particulars will be given previous to the sale.

The VENDUE MASTERS will always keep the Store open for the reception of GOODS, and filling of such articles therein between the times of public sales as may be on limitation. They likewise offer their services in transacting any kind of Commission Business.

MARSTELLER & SONS.

April 4th, 1796.

For Charter,

THE BRIG

Virginia,

Burthen 300 hhds of tobacco.—For fern apply to

SHREVE & LAWRASON.

Who have for sale—Queen's ware in crates, well assorted; glass ware; double Gloucester cheese in hampers; Liverpool salt in sacks and loofe; pipes in boxes; pearl barley in kegs; bar lead; candles by the box

Qa. 18. tf.

Bank of Alexandria.

January 2, 1797.

NOTICE is hereby given to the Stock Holders of the Bank of Alexandria, that a dividend of five per cent on the Capital Stock of the Bank, for the half year, ending this day is declared, and will be ready to be paid to them, or their representatives, on Thursday next the 5th inst.

By order of the President & Directors.

GURDEN CHAPIN, Cashier.

P. S. Those shares that have been subscribed since the 5th of July last, are entitled to a proportionate dividend.

GURDEN CHAPIN.

Bank of Alexandria,

December 14, 1796.

NOTICE is hereby given to the Stockholders of the Bank of Alexandria, that an election will be held at the Court house in this town, on the third Monday in January next, for the purpose of choosing nine Directors of the said bank for the ensuing year, agreeable to charter.

By order of the President and Directors.

GURDEN CHAPIN, Cashier.

Very great Bargains.

THE public are informed that the Goods remaining on hand at the Store under the direction of the subscriber, opposite to M'Knight's tavern will henceforth be sold at prices reduced below the very moderate rates at which they have heretofore been sold. The proprietors being desirous of closing the sales speedily, will accommodate retailers with a credit.

January 7. tf

Caution.

I HEREBY caution the public against receiving a note of hand, dated the 1st of October 1796, and given by me to John Dalton, for the sum of 326 dollars and 66 cents, payable the 1st of January, 1797. the said Dalton not having complied with contract, for which the note was given.

Whereas a proviso was annexed to the note, binding said Dalton to fulfil the contract, which proviso I find to have been clandestinely cut off, and therefore do not hold myself liable to pay it.

JOHN HODGKIN.

Jan. 3. 3

Wood, and large Whits Oak Timber.

FOR SALE,

AT the subscriber's plantation, six miles from Alexandria, five to George-Town, and four to the river opposite to the Federal City, a quantity of wood, which he will sell standing, or cordad in the woods, as may suit the purchaser. Also, a quantity of large White Oak Timber, such as will answer for girders, and framers, &c. for houses; and likewise a quantity of Ship Timber, which I will sell at a low price as I find even the land it stands to clear.

JOHN LUKE.

December 29. 4w1w

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